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Message Text

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70
ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-10 EA-11 EUR-25 L-03

/096 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:RCPARR:JO
8/27/73 EXT. 20352
APPROVED BY EB:WCARMSTRONG
CAB - BURCH
EUR/WE - BEIGEL
EB/AN - COBB
EA/OA - MEADOWS
EB/TT - WALDMANN
S/S - MR. GAMMON
WH - BGEN. SCOWCROFT
---------- 076980
R 282109Z AUG 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171266

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRN, BE
SUBJECT: CIVAIR - POLICY TOWARD GOB
REF: BRUSSELS 3291
1. IN PROPOSING CONSULTATIONS "WITHIN BROADER CONTEXT" BELGIANS MAY BE SEEKING TO EXTRACT RIGHTS AT ATLANTA, CHICAGO OR ELSEWHERE IN EXCHANGE FOR GRANTING USG RIGHTS BEYOND BRUSSELS TO WARSAW/MOSCOW.

2. IN ADDITION TO OUR RELUCTANCE AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE TO PAY AGAIN FOR RIGHTS ALREADY OURS, ECONOMICS OF SITUATION MILITATE AGAINST SUCH EXCHANGE; MOSCOW/WARSAW RIGHTS WOULD BE WORTH ABOUT 500,000 DOLLARS ANNUALLY TO PAN AM WHILE ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL US POINT WOULD BE WORTH SEVERAL MILLION ANNUALLY TO SABENA. THIS WOULD, OF COURSE,
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FURTHER UNBALANCE BENEFITS UNDER TOTAL US-BELGIUM CIVAIR MARKET WHICH FAVORED BELGIUM BY ABOUT 25 MILLION DOLLARS

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IN 1971.

3. THEREFORE, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INFORM GOB THAT PAN AMERICAN WILL TERMINATE MOSCOW/WARSAW SERVICE VIA BRUSSELS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 8.

4. FYI: AFTER THOROUGH REVIEW, USG HAS DECIDED THAT PREVIOUS OFFERS TO GOB OF SECOND US POINT SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN. THIS INCLUDES OFFER IN 1972 CONSULTATIONS OF RIGHTS AT BALTIMORE, PHILADELPHIA, OR BOSTON AS WELL AS ORIGINAL OFFER OF WASHINGTON RIGHTS, FIRST PROPOSED IN 1970 LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS DECISION NOT--REPEAT NOT--BE CONVEYED TO GOB AT THIS TIME. SHOULD BELGIANS, DESPITE RECEIPT OF INFO IN PARA 3 ABOVE, PROPOSE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS OR TALKS, EMBASSY SHOULD STATE USG PREPARED TO FULFILL RESPONSI-BILITIES UNDER AGREEMENT, BUT PLEAD INABILITY TO ASSEMBLE NEGOTIATING TEAM PRIOR TO MID-OCTOBER. HOPEFULLY THIS RESPONSE WILL DISCOURAGE BELGIANS, BUT IF CONSULTATIONS ARE UNDERTAKEN IN OCTOBER OR AT LATER DATE, EMBASSY MAY INFORM GOB THAT USG CONSIDERS PREVIOUS OFFERS TO GOB NO LONGER VALID BUT THAT USG REMAINS PREPARED CONSIDER ON THEIR MERITS ANY BELGIAN ROUTE REQUESTS FOR WHICH GOB CAN PROVIDE ADEQUATE ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION. END FYI. RUSH

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Draft Date: 28 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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